December 24 - Advent IV - Christmas Eve

NO 8:30 a.m. service

ONE service at 10:00 a.m. Rev. Brent Laytham preaching

4:00 p.m. Family Worship

9:00 p.m. Festival Service - Holy Communion and candlelighting at both services

December 25 - Christmas Day

11:00 Simple Worship Service with carols and communion

December 31 - New Year’s Eve

NO 8:30 a.m. service

ONE service at 10:00 a.m. Jack Danz, Certified Lay Minister, preaching
January 2018 preaching schedule

January 7  Celebrating Epiphany - Rev. McCullough preaching
January 14  Human Relations Sunday - Rev. McCullough preaching
January 21  Martina Martin preaching. A provisional deacon, psychotherapist, and practicing professional counselor who specializes in art therapy, Martina has preached at Grace before and led the 2016 Advent retreat
January 28  Kick-off to our year-long celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Grace Church, with guest preacher, Rev. Dr. William Lawrence.

The celebration of 150 years – What a year it will be!

The planning committee for our 150th Anniversary has been busily meeting to plan events to celebrate this auspicious milestone in the life of Grace Church. All during 2018, there will be special speakers, preachers, luncheons, mementoes, and services. You’ll hear about a day of service, concerts, an alumni choir, homecoming, and did I say luncheons?

Here at Grace we have so much to celebrate: the past – the blended history of the four churches representing all of the branches of Methodism; the present – our leadership and sharing in the lives for those in need in the City of Baltimore; and the future – continued excellence in worship and music and increasing our involvement in initiatives for inclusion and social justice.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28 is the first of such special days as we welcome Rev. Dr. William Lawrence both to the pulpit and then an inspiring lecture following luncheon. He is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church and a former member of the Judicial Council of the UMC. His research has focused on historical theology, American church history and homiletics.

His sermon will be entitled “A Surplus of Grace,” and will be based upon texts found in I Peter 4:7-11 and Luke 19:11-27. He is professor of American Church History at Southern Methodist University’s Perkins School of Theology. He previously served as Dean of Perkins from 2002 to 2016.

We will host a luncheon between the worship service and a lecture planned for 1:00 p.m., “Like an Ever-flowing Stream,” an apt metaphor for Methodist history and its vitality in the future. Please plan now to welcome Dr. Lawrence and kick-off our exciting celebratory year. Watch for details as each event unfolds!

Music for Christmas Eve will include the Sunday School Choir and the Youth Choir at our 4:00 p.m. Family Service. At our traditional 9:00 p.m. Candlelight Service, the Chancel Choir will present several anthems accompanied by a string quartet. The Gathering Music beginning at 8:30 p.m. will also feature choral anthems, organ voluntaries and selections by the string quartet.

Bach in Baltimore
On Sunday, January 7 at 4:00 p.m. Grace Church will host the Bach in Baltimore Concert Choir and Orchestra under the direction of T. Herbert Dimmock. Music presented that day will include Bach Cantata No 9 Est ist das Heil uns kommen her, Cantata 54 Widerstehe doch der Sünde and Handel’s Organ Concerto, Op. 4, No. 5 with organist Chris Schroeder. General admission tickets may be purchased by visiting the Bach in Baltimore website: www.bachinbaltimore.org or by calling 410-941-9262.
“150 Years of Grace” - Planting Seeds for Future Generations

We celebrate those who have pledged in support of our 2018 operating budget

Thank you to all members and friends of Grace Church who have made a pledge to our 2018 Operating Budget. We are grateful for your support of the ministries of this church and trust that God is doing great things through this body of Christ. As of December 6, 2017, we have received 100 commitment cards, totaling $301,424 toward our 2018 budget.

Kitty Allen
Janet Ander
Lynn & Ruth Ann Beachler
Carolyn Benfer
Linda Benson & Sue Williams
Nancy Blackstone
Francette Boling
Barbara Bond
David Brock
Catherine Buffington
Linda & Dennis Cameron
John Casey & Marie Yeh
Ed & Bonnie Caster
Angie Chobanov
Bud & Susan Clark
Nancy Cornbrooks
Mimi Corry
Kathleen Cosgrove
Ann Dahl
Joseph Dandy
Jack & Maureen Danz
Betty Dempster
James Doub
Debbie English
Todd English
Angus & Lydia Everton
Norma Faby
Frank Fiske
Jim Fitzgerald
John Ford
Richard Frank
Ed & Anna Mae Frederick
Bob & Jeanne Gayler
John & Judy Gillan
Marcia Gleckler
Amanda Graham & Thomas Gaeng
Lisa Greenhouse
Walter & Claire Greenhouse
Larry & Anne Griffith
James Heckman
Carl Hickey
Wendy Iglehart
Kelly Jackson
George Kahl

John & Francie Keenan
David Klindienst
Cath LaCosta
David & Susan Ladenheim
Diane Lesman
Michael & Amy Madsen
Amy & Chris McCullough
Mike & Kristen McGuire
Bob & Sharon McIntire
James McSavaney & Amy Royce
Ellie Megraw
Kathie Metz
Thomas Moore
Irene Moses
Helen Mosher
Sara Mullan
Stephen & Kathryn Mullan
Chris & Nila Murray
Steve & Kelly Painter
Marge Pennhallegon
June Peterson
Ryan & Michelle Riddle
Thom & Sue Rinker
Bob & Elaine Schaefer
Doug & Allegra Schmidt
Wayne & Shannon Schmidt
Chris Schroeder
Robert & Carolyn Scott
Alan & Nancy Seitz
Kevin & Biz Shaner
Lynne & Norman Sharpe
Dorothy Shindle
Richard Shindle
Milt & Linda Siglin
Edward & Patricia Skinner
Jack & Jean Smith
Tanya Spedalere
Lee & Wilma Starkey
Gordon & Joanie Stetz
Scott & Suzanne Stevens
Walt & Marguerite Sticki
Diane & Don Topper
Andrew Trofatter
Rex & Kristin Turner

Pat Volker
Susan Wallace
Lura Warren
Nancy Webb
Kris and Taren Weidner
Tom & Lois Wellener
Sue Wilkerson
Jeanne Wingate
4 Unnamed pledges

Within the Family of Grace
DEATH
Linda Mosher Latreille
November 26, 2017

Special Gifts
We acknowledge with gratitude the following special gifts in memory of Charles William Klein by
Kitty Allen
Carolyn Benfer
The Grace Preschool Family
Jacquelyn Meadors
Birthday Greetings

to those of our church family celebrating in January
1  Misako Fukushima, Kurt Hoffman
2  Hojoon Lee, Kelly Topper
3  Mary Jane Demarest, Wes Gilbert, Jr., Elaine Schaefer, Lyla Schmidt
4  Riley Schmidt, Arlie Shaw
5  Tom Gause, Ian Murray, Leigh Thomas
6  Abbey Murphy, Benjamin Murphy
7  Ben Holt, Maxwell Wiseman
8  Christopher A’Hern, Janet Ander, Cianna Ferrante
9  James Scounten
10 Marianne Corry, Frances Eger
11 Adrienne Hackley, Jacquelyn Meadors, Claire Stevens
12 Thomas Adolph, Wyatt Friar, Justin Hickey
13 Robyn McGowan, Matt Sinfield, Margaret Stuart, Kara Thorne
14 Bryan Howe, Samuel King, Milt Siglin
15 Edward Fields, Charles Starkey, John A. Tyler
16 Angus Everton
17 Michael A’Hern, Andrew Greenland
18 Carol Gamble, Cassandra Plitt
19 Jeane Santamaria, Trisha Wetzelberger
20 Carolyn Benfer
21 Wayne Schmidt, Alastair Valentine, Laird Wilhide
22 Tina Bathory, Barbara Danecker, Jeff Gamble, Mark Gruber
23 Ken McCabe, Walter Stucki
24 Phillip Kessell
25 Lucas Calderon
26 Natalie Riddle, Alan Seitz, Matthew Strobel
27 Walter Hudson, Marilyn Workman

GRACE BOOK GROUP

For its meeting on Monday, January 8th at 7:00 p.m., the Grace Book Group is reading and discussing Operating Instructions by Ann Lamotte. New lovers of reading are always welcome. Join the group in the parlor.

The February selection will be Sleeping with Mae West by Dr. Yim.

Congregation and choir blended voices in a hearty Happy Birthday greeting which was recorded and presented to Downing Kay on the occasion of her 110th birthday, which this year was on Thanksgiving Day! What an incredible milestone achievement – Downing, you are an inspiration to all of us!

Blessing to our Bible students

On Sunday, December 3rd, Sean Harris, Suzanna McCullough and Addie McGuire received their own Bibles and were blessed with parental hand on shoulder during the service of worship. Each of the young 3rd graders had completed the My Bible Class preparing them for this recognition.

Holiday Schedule

The Church Office will have an abbreviated schedule to allow the staff time away to celebrate the holidays with their families.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 - closed
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26 - closed
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29 - closed
MONDAY, JANUARY 1 - closed

to all who wrote one of the daily Advent devotions and to Marcia Gleckler, editor and Kathie Metz, idea generator, for such a meaningful gift this Christmas. Each daily writing appears on our FaceBook page.
Nominations for Lay Leadership
Grace United Methodist Church
Positions beginning January 2018

Church Council: Chair: Suzanne Stevens
Vice-Chairperson: David Klindienst
Secretary:
Lay Leader: Henry Perry
Finance Chair: Amy Madsen
SPRC Chair: Michelle Riddle
Trustee Chair: Dick Frank
Missions and Outreach: Katie Spearman
Worship Chair: Kathie Metz
Communications Committee: Marie Yeh
Children’s Ministry Rep: Amy Madsen
Treasurer: Lynn Beachler
Financial Secretary: George Kahl
Youth Representative: Kelly Topper
Lay Member to Annual Conference: Doug Schmidt

At large members: Christina Campbell, Allison Ferguson, Thomas Gaeng, Irene Moses, Henry Perry, Claire Greenhouse, Angie Wasylak, Lyn Phelps, Amanda Graham

Staff-Parish Relations
2018 2019 2020
Steve Painter Ann Dahl Michelle Riddle, chair
Jean Smith Patrick Onley Chuck Starkey
Heather Grandsire Andy Trofatter Gordon Stetz
Lay Leader: Henry Perry AC Rep: Doug Schmidt

Board of Trustees
2018 2019 2020
Tim Gause Dick Frank Scott Stevens
Biz Shaner Cath LaCosta Linda Cameron
Steve McIntire Kelly Painter Ed Caster
Staff: Lynn Beachler, Amy McCullough

Finance Committee
2018 2019 2020
Amy Madsen (chair) Billie Jo McIntire John Gillan
Brent Laytham John Keenan Mike McGuire
Bud Clark Bonnie Caster Jane Benson
Chairs of Church Council and SPRC Staff: George Kahl, Lynn Beachler, Rev. Amy McCullough

Nominations and Lay Leadership
Lay Leader: Henry Perry
2018 2019 2020
George Kahl Sue Williams Lynne Sharpe
Steve Painter Barb Starkey Wendy Iglehart
David Beachler Linda English Carl Hickey
The Trustees

Investment Advisory Board
Michael Madsen  Gordon Stetz (chair)  Robert McIntire  Mike McGuire
Katherine Allen  Charles Starkey  Linda Cameron
Dave Beachler  The Trustees

Worship Committee: Chair: Kathie Metz
Claire Greenhouse (Altar Guild)  Barb Starkey (Chancel Choir)
Amanda Graham  Kevin Shaner
Lee Starkey (Ushers)  Chuck Starkey  Judy Gillan
Jean Smith  Deborah English  Matt or Lani Sinfield
Staff Members: Chris Schroeder, David Brock, Amy McCullough, James McSavaney

Outreach and Mission Committee: Chair: Katie Spearman
Lynn Beachler  Jean Smith  Angie Chobanov  Maureen Danz
Diane Topper  Kristen McGuire  Henry Perry
David Beachler  Deborah English  Barbara Bond
Wilma Starkey  Wayne Schmidt  Kelly Jackson

Adult Education Coordinators: Amanda Graham and Kristen Turner

Reconciling Committee: Chair: George Kahl
Olivia Birkel  Ann Dahl  Michelle Riddle
Doris Franklin  Anne Griffith  Richard Hall
Elizabeth Ottinger  Barb Starkey  Doug Schmidt
Ellen Stokes  Andrew Trofatter

Shepherding Committee: Chair:
Pastoral Care Representative:
Coordinator of Bereavement: Debbie English
Coordinator of Prayer Ministry: Jeanne Gayler
Coordinator of Grace Cares: Diana McGraw

Children’s Ministry Team
Linda English  Jody Wiseman  Biz Shaner
Abbi Bayne  Michelle Riddle  Wayne Schmidt
Staff: Trisha Wetzelberger

AIDS Task Force: Chair: Barbara Bond
Bruce Eicher  Anne Griffith  George Kahl
Diane Lesman  Alice Mack  Frances Northington
Bruce Rice  Susan Rice  Henry Perry

Grace Community Fellowship: Diana Gause

Communications Committee: Marie Yeh (chair)
Kitty Allen  Jennifer Gillis-White  Diane Lesman  Angie Chobanov
Maggie Grandsire

+ + +

With deep appreciation to those whose terms in office expire at the end of December for their hours of service to the life of Grace Church, and a warm welcome to those in new leadership roles. We offer our prayers and support for an active and fruitful year.
CHRISTMAS Blessings from the Staff of Grace United Methodist Church

Lead Pastor
Amy P. McCullough
Associate Pastor
James McSavaney
Director of Children & Youth Ministries
Trisha Wetzelberger
Minister of Music/Organist
Chris Schroeder
Associate Organist
David C. Brock
Director, Children’s Choir
Mairin Srygley
Robert Cantrell
Director, Youth Choir
Kathie Metz
Director, Handbell Choir
Soloists/Section Leaders
Teri Bickham, soprano; Mairin Srygley, mezzo soprano;
Patricia Hengen, contralto; Antonio Chase, tenor; Robert Cantrell, bass
Administrative Assistant
Christina Rushing
Business Secretary
George Kahl
General Treasurer
Lynn Beachler
Newsletter Editor
Kitty Allen
Preschool Director
Barbara Blair
Custodial Staff
Tim Gause, Robert Ashby, Carolyn Sandler

5407 North Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21210
410-433-6650 www.graceunitedmethodist.org